



Hurricane Harvey 2017
9/19/2017 – 0700 CDT Update

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Representatives from U.S. Representative Culberson's (7th District Texas) visited the Houston Branch yesterday, September 18, 2017. Dana Tulis, U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Director of Incident Management and Preparedness Policy is expected to visit Houston and Corpus Christi Branches today, September 19, 2017. House of Representative Speaker Paul Ryan is expected to visit the Houston Branch on September 20 or 21, 2017.
- State cost-share increases to 10% match (from zero) for response activities including EPA-lead ESF-10 operations, beginning Saturday, September 23. EPA is coordinating with the state of Texas to identify ESF-10 operations that will continue after Friday.
- Reconnaissance and orphan container collection will be completed by Friday, however, disposal of collected material will not be completed by Saturday's cost-share increase. These operations will either be completed by EPA at a higher state cost-share or turned over to the state of Texas for completion.
- EPA and TCEQ are evaluating future operations in support of hurricane-related debris management. In support of the state of Texas, EPA has been providing field observers at staging areas and landfills, and community liaisons to provide information to the public.
- ASPECT and PHILIS have been demobilized. Both TAGA mobile air monitoring buses will complete existing targets surveys this week and demobilize before the increased state cost-share.
- The Corpus Christi Branch has transitioned all future assessment and recovery operations to the TCEQ Regional Office and is preparing to conduct post operations sampling of the staging pad.
- The Houston and Port Arthur/Beaumont Branches of Unified Command continue recovering, staging, characterizing, and consolidating orphan containers for proper disposal. The Port Arthur/Beaumont Branch is transferring recovered containers and waste from the staging pad for disposal this week, and is projected to complete recovery activities within 5 days. The Houston Branch is projected to complete recovery activities within 10-20 days.
- Two TAGA air monitoring teams monitored around facilities and neighborhoods near Port

Arthur and Victoria yesterday. No readings above the TCEQ Air Monitoring Comparison Values short-term screening levels were detected. The TAGA teams plan to monitor around facilities near Beaumont and Corpus Christi today, September 19, 2017.

- EPA completed sampling of all 34 Texas Superfund sites potentially impacted by the storm, September 15, 2017. EPA has released 27 post-hurricane Superfund site summaries based on preliminary data on the www.epa.gov/hurricane-harvey website.
- Community Liaison teams continue to provide information regarding returning to flooded areas and handling of house-hold waste in the counties of Orange, Chambers, Matagorda, Brazoria, Galveston, Montgomery, San Patricio, Nueces, and Aransas. The teams are listening to concerns from the community, associated with the recovery effort, and transferring this information back to the JFO to the appropriate ESF contacts.
- EPA will host its weekly Hurricane Harvey update conference call with environmental justice advocates today.
- The TCEQ is requesting the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to increase EPA's ESF-10 Mission Assignment by \$8.3 million in stages. Once fully approved, this will bring the total funding for assessment and response to \$18.3 million.
- Arkema requested a 90-day extension to EPA's information request for information related to their facility. Today, EPA will grant a 30-day extension to Arkema to complete their response to EPA.
- FEMA has not issued EPA a mission assignment for Long-term Recovery. EPA has provided FEMA with a copy of the Long-term Recovery mission assignment issued after the Louisiana flooding as an example of the type of mission assignment appropriate for EPA. EPA continues to attend planning meetings and provide technical assistance without a mission assignment.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

No significant new public affairs activities to report.

DEBRIS RECOVERY

Joint EPA and TCEQ field observation teams continue to observe debris staging and landfill operations within the hurricane impacted counties in Texas to ensure best practices and program requirements are being met. EPA observers visited 38 sites, with TCEQ, on September 18, 2017. FEMA reported that 146 debris sites have been approved. Currently, FEMA estimates debris to total 17 million cubic yards. A federal Debris Management Taskforce has been established at the Joint Field Office (JFO) in Austin and EPA is a member of the Taskforce.

VECTOR CONTROL

Department of Defense (DOD) conducted spray operations in Harris, Montgomery, and Liberty

counties. DOD's mission is 70.5% complete. They are continuing spray operations in Harris, Montgomery, and Liberty counties during the evening of September 18, 2017. State contractors are also scheduled to conduct night-time spray operations in Polk, San Jacinto, and Walker counties on September 18, 2017. To date, 2,064,303 acres have been treated.

AIR MONITORING

On September 18, 2017, TAGA Team 1 conducted monitoring of neighborhoods and areas around Formosa Plastics, Formosa Plastics Marine Terminal in Point Comfort, and INVISTA in Victoria. They also monitored in the Point Comfort community around the INVISTA facility. No monitored readings exceeded the TCEQ Air Monitoring Comparison Values short-term screening levels. They plan to monitor facilities in the Corpus Christi area on September 19, 2017.

On September 18, 2017, TAGA Team 2 conducted air monitoring of neighborhoods and areas around Flint Hills Port Arthur, Total Petrochemicals Port Arthur Refinery, Valero (Premcor), Port Arthur Refinery, Motiva Port Arthur Refinery, Oiltanking - Motiva Port Neches Terminal, Shell Pipeline - Crude Product, Huntsman Petrochemical Port Neches Facility. Air monitoring was also conducted in the neighborhoods North and Southeast of Huntsman, North and East of Valero (Premcor), and East of Motiva. No monitored readings at any facilities exceeded the TCEQ Air Monitoring Comparison Values short-term screening levels. TAGA Team 2 plans to conduct monitoring in the Beaumont area on September 19, 2017.

FIELD RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

Daily/Cumulative Summary of Hazard Evaluations/Recovery				
Status	Opened		Closed	
	9/18/2017	Number of Targets Remaining Open	9/18/2017	Cumulative
Corpus Christi Branch	0	5	0	101
Houston Branch	1	5	2	380
Port Arthur/Beaumont Branch	0	3	11	128
NRC Reports	0	0	0	5
TOTALS	1	13	13	614
Note: Open means the target is yet to be recovered. Closed means the target was recovered/left in place or access was denied to collect the item.				

Daily/Cumulative Summary of Spills/Discharges (NON-VESSELS)					
Status	Opened		Closed		
	9/18/17	Number of Facilities/Spills Remaining Open	9/18/17	Cumulative	
Corpus Christi Branch	0	0	0	33	
Houston Branch	0	0	0	77	
Port Arthur/Beaumont Branch	1	4	3	22	
NRC Reports	3	10	5	115	
TOTALS	4	14	8	247	
Note: Open means the target is yet to be recovered/cleaned up. Closed means the target was recovered/cleaned up by a Responsible Party or not found upon return to location.					
Waste Received at All Staging Pads to Date					
	CONTAINERS			Cylinders	TOTAL
	Drums [55 gals]	Small Containers [<55 gals]	Large Containers [>55 gals]		
9/18/2017	7	11	2	0	20
TOTAL TO DATE	416	392	33	112	953
Note: A review of inventory records indicated errors in reporting the number of containers collected on September 11-14 and 17, 2017. The Totals To Date have been adjusted accordingly.					

Field Teams on 9/18/2017				
Teams	Alpha	Bravo	Charlie	Total
Hazard Evaluation	0	1	1	2
Hazard Evaluation Debris	2	6	0	8
Oil Discharge Assessment	0	2	0	2
ER/Orphan Container Recovery	0	3	2	5
Oil/Vessel Discharge Recovery	6	0	0	6
Staging Areas	0	1	1	2
Air Operations	0	1	0	1
Air Monitoring	1	0	0	1
Totals	9	14	4	27

CORPUS CHRISTI BRANCH:

The Oil/Vessel Discharge Recovery Teams continued to assess open targets and placed 10 removal notification placards on vessels in Rockport. TAGA Team 1 monitored within the branch area as reported in the Air Monitoring section above. The Staging Area is being sampled and dismantled.

HOUSTON BRANCH:

The Air Operations Team conducted an overflight of Tiki Island including the surrounding islands. They identified no vessels in the Island area, but did observe boom around the Christina Vessel.

The Discharge Assessment Team identified a new target at Stingaree Marina. The ER/Orphan Container Recovery Teams closed three targets where no container was found.

PORT ARTHUR/BEAUMONT BRANCH:

TAGA Team 2 monitored within the branch area as reported in the Air Monitoring section above. The Staging Area Team consolidated all of the oil/fuel products and corrosives. These waste streams will be transferred to the Houston Staging Area this week.

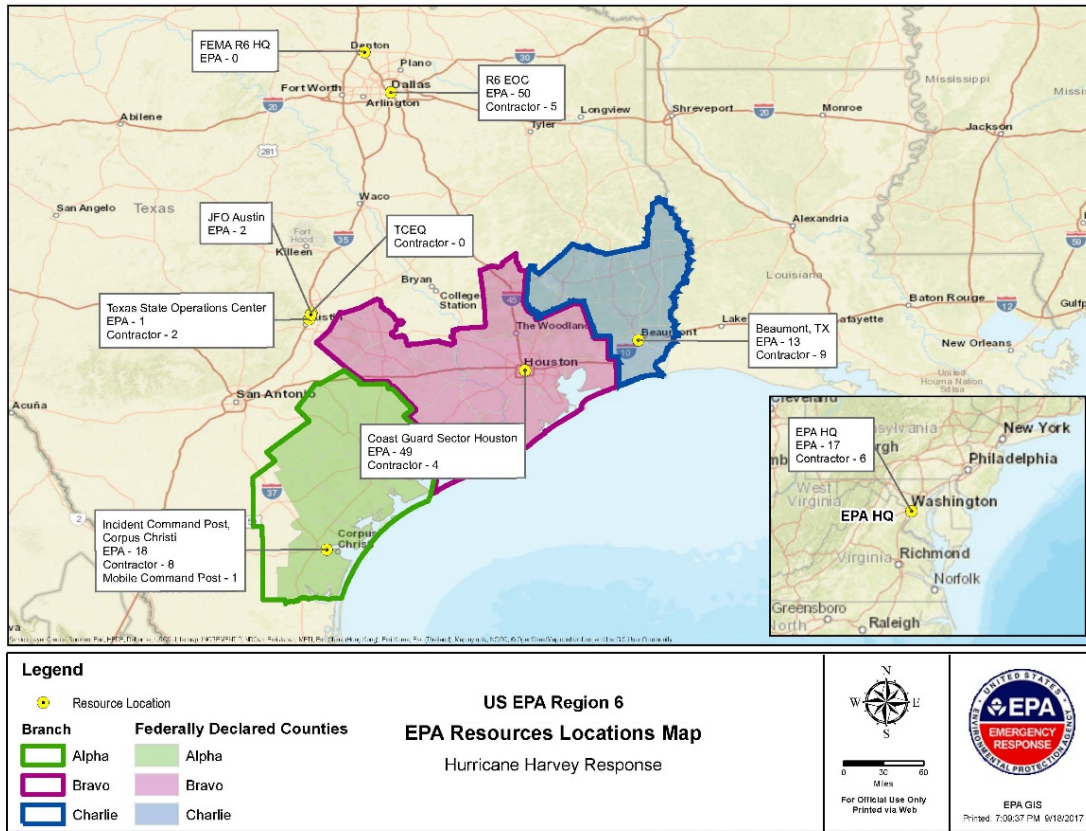
ER/Orphan Container Recovery Teams collected orphan containers that were assessed by air operations along 10 miles of the Neches River, from Port Neches park to Interstate 10. Water Operations collected nine containers on the Sabine and Neches Rivers. One target was referred to land operations due to easier accessibility by land. The responsible party will be contacted to collect one target on the Sabine River. Teams also collected a partially full 500-gallon fuel tank and seven 5-gallon containers of firefighting foam at the CBI industrial facility. The team referred one target that was within the Sea Rim State Park to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

Orphan Container Recovery Land Team retrieved multiple targets from Neches Park. Not all targets could be retrieved by land. The team determined one target will require special equipment for recovery due to its large size.

Hazard Evaluation (HE) teams removed boom from the Neches River where no oil was visible. Teams also assessed six NRC and TCEQ reports. Three of the reports were closed with no additional actions needed, one cleanup was verified completed, and two responsible party cleanups are still in progress.

EPA RESOURCES

Personnel	EPA Dallas, TX	FEMA Denton, TX	Texas JFO Austin, TX	Texas SOC Austin, TX	TCEQ Austin, TX	Houston, TX	Corpus Christi, TX	Beaumont, TX	HQ EOC, Wash, DC	TOTAL
EPA	50	0	2	1	0	49	19	13	17	151
START	5			2	0	4	8	9		28
ERRS						15	4	15		34
Other Contractors									6	6
TOTAL	55	0	2	3	0	68	31	37	23	219



FUNDING

September 18, 2017, UPDATED 1300 hours

Funding Sources	Funding Ceiling	Funding Ceiling Less Indirect	Obligated to Date	Estimated Spent to Date	Unobligated Dollars Remaining	Estimated Unspent Dollars Remaining	Daily Burn Rate	Days Remaining
Non Mission Assignment	N/A			\$64,200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		
MA 4332DR-TX-EPA-01	\$275,000.00	\$242,741.00	\$58,258.00	\$58,258.00	\$184,483.00	\$184,483.00	\$4,064.00	45.39
MA 4332DR-TX-EPA-03	\$10,092,000.00	\$8,908,113.00	\$8,516,248.41	\$7,197,713.32	\$391,864.59	\$1,710,399.68	\$279,735.13	see below
Totals:	\$10,367,000.00	\$9,150,854.00	\$8,574,506.41	\$7,320,171.32	\$576,347.59	\$1,830,682.68		
Days remaining based on authorized direct ceiling minus total payroll, travel, and contracts EXPENDED								6.11
Days Remaining based on authorized ceiling minus total payroll, travel, and contract OBLIGATIONS								2.06
NOTE: This report includes estimated cumulative costs of the HQ EOC charging under MA#03 (09/16/17)								

FEDERAL SUPERFUND NPL SITES - (These activities are being done concurrently but outside of the current Mission Assignment)

- EPA either directed potentially responsible parties (PRPs), or independently, began collecting samples at 34 Texas Superfund Sites and 9 Louisiana Sites to confirm no releases due to storm impacts. Six EPA field teams, along with PRPs, have completed sampling at all 43 sites. The sampling is part of a longer term assessment that will be used to transition sites back to normal cleanup operations. All preliminary un-validated results for sites located in Texas have been received and the remaining 3 sites located in Louisiana are expected today.
- EPA received preliminary data for 40 sites, and has publicly reported on 27. Review of preliminary data packages continues and will be reported as they are completed. Final data packages are expected within two weeks.
- All 43 Federal Superfund NPL Sites in the hurricane affected area have been assessed. Of these, 42 sites have been cleared. The San Jacinto Waste Pits requires additional follow up.
- San Jacinto Waste Pits Update: The Responsible Party submitted, and EPA approved the cap repair work plan on September 15, 2017. The RP began maintenance work on September 16, 2017. No work occurred on September 18, 2017, due to required contractor training. Work will resume today.

Photo Log



**Port Arthur/Beaumont Branch
Orphan Container Recovery**



**Port Arthur/Beaumont Branch
Tank Assessment**